



Join Us In Measuring Progress

A Monthly
Assessment Newsletter
November 2002

Assessment for Learning

MontCAS, Phase 1

**Standard Administration = Accurate +
Reliable Data**

The testing window for the Iowa Tests is March 10-28. Training for standard administration of the 2003 Iowa Tests will be offered in February 2003. Two types of training are offered:

- Comprehensive training by video conference.
- Refresher/update training by conference call.
- Online registration for both types will be available at <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/assessment/index.html> by December 5.

**Comprehensive Training, Thursday,
Feb. 6, 10:00 am - noon.**



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- Designed for test coordinators who have not attended a previous session or for other district personnel who are involved in test administration. The more people who understand the system, the better the administration.
- Test coordinators who have attended previous sessions are welcome.
- Schedule for Feb. 6 Iowa Test Administration Video Conferences.

Helena	Department of Public Health & Human Services, 111 Sanders Street, Lower level auditorium
Glendive	Glendive Medical Center 202 Prospect Drive
Butte	Montana Tech 1300 West Park Street.ELCB, Room 231
Havre	Montana State University-Northern 300 11th Street West, Hagener Science Center, Rm 202
Great Falls	Great Falls College of Technology of MSU 2100 16th Ave. S., Room B-103
Billings	Montana State University at Billings 1500 N. 30th St. College of Education and Human Service Room 159
Missoula	University of Montana Corner of Arthur and Eddy Gallagher Building, Room 104
Bozeman	Montana State University, EPS Building, S. 7th and Grant Burns Center Room 126

* Please register online between December 5, 2002 and January 10, 2003-<http://www.opi.state.mt.us/assessment/index.html>. Directions for registration are included online.

Refresher Training

- Designed for test coordinators and administrators who have administered the tests previously and need both a refresher and an update.
- Schedule for four conference call sessions, Feb 7 and 10 (register for only one).
 - Feb. 7 1 - 2 pm (room for 9 participants)
 - Feb. 7 3:30 - 4:30 pm (room for 9 participants)
 - Feb. 10 8:30 - 9:30 am (room for 9 participants)
 - Feb. 10 11:00 am - noon (room for 9 participants)
- Please register online between December 5, 2002 and January 10, 2003 at <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/assessment/index.html>. Directions for registration are included online.

- Detailed information about participating in the April pilot of the criterion-referenced test will be mailed from Measured Progress to school principals before the December holidays.
- **Rave Reviews:** Congratulations to Montana educators for great work and input at the item writing and review sessions and teacher workshops. Your professionalism and commitment shine and make a difference.
- Grade 10 is the high school grade for MontCAS, Phase 2.

Montana Schools to Participate in NAEP Testing

NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) testing will begin January 27 and conclude by March 7. Approximately 350 schools will participate in 4th and 8th grade reading and mathematics assessments.

This year, NAEP is different from past years. State participation is required by the the No Child Left Behind Act. Test administrators have been hired by WESTAT, the private contractor that works with NAEP, to administer the tests in schools. These test administrators are Montanans, mainly retired teachers or other educators from around the state.

Montana results of the 2003 NAEP testing will probably be available by spring 2004. Montana traditionally has been in the top 5 states in many of the NAEP assessments.

If you have any questions about the NAEP testing, you can contact Lindy Miller at OPI at 444-6774. If your school is being tested this spring, and you have scheduling questions or other issues, you may also contact Mary Graybeal in Missoula at 721-3330

New Information on the Assessment Web Page: Montana ACT/SAT Results for 2002

<http://www.opi.state.mt.us/assessment/index.html>

MontCAS, Phase 2-Criterion Referenced Test

- Measured Progress is the testing contractor for the criterion-referenced test and will directly mail important information to districts including information about the pilot test and teacher workshops. Please watch for envelopes and mail from Measured Progress.
- Teacher as Assessor teacher workshops will be held during the week of April 28 in Missoula, Butte, Great Falls, Glendive, and Billings. More information will be available in the spring.
- Pilot testing window is April 14-24.

For further information, contact:

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